

Cook Counseling offers drug abuse treatment

EMELIA HUGHES
news reporter

Cook Counseling offers individual and group therapy, as well as psychiatric care, addressing substance use and abuse. Although students may be referred by student conduct, a teacher or a parent, counseling generally remains confidential and voluntary.

Staff Counselor Trent Davis said that Cook Counseling mandates assessments on occasion, usually for people who are considered high-risk for harming themselves or others.

Depending on the situation, substance treatment for students may be mandated through the Campus Alcohol Abuse and Prevention Center (CAAPC). This is often done via student conduct.

"If someone wants treatment for a substance abuse problem ... we certainly offer that," Davis said. "We don't use a 12-step model like AA, although often students find that ... they just don't have the physiology or the psychology where they can use casually like their friends."

According to Davis, CAAPC is not directly affiliated with Cook Counseling, although they are both part of the Division of Student Affairs.

"We're all part of the same student affairs entity, but we have a different function," Davis said. "We do all counseling, and they do primarily substance use education ... and (CAAPC does) treatment as well."

CAAPC generally operates on the short-term, whereas Cook Counseling may offer more long-term treatment.

"We kind of meet people where they are, in terms of my

(substance abuse counseling) group," Davis said. "Individual therapy would just depend on what the person needs."

Davis said that co-occurring disorders are fairly common and tie into the idea of self-medicating.

"Anything that happens here, with the exception of you being at risk to harm yourself or someone else ... everything's confidential," Davis said.

The Student Code of Conduct, which can be found online in the Hokie Handbook 2014-2015, lists Schedule I substances including heroin, LSD, marijuana, GHB, MDMA and methaqualone. It details what classifies as a Schedule I substance.

"The drug or other substance has a high potential for abuse," according to the "Controlled Substances" section of the Student Code of Conduct. "The drug or other substance has no currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States. There is a lack of accepted safety for use of the drug or other substance under medical supervision," according to the Schedule I designation.

Davis said he is not obligated to report on activity that is illegal, excepting in the above or similar situations.

"(For the majority of kids who go through college and experience substance use), it's just a transient thing," Davis said. "For a minority, that's not the case. It's the beginning of a very serious problem or they come in with a serious problem ... Those folks are the ones that take up the most resources, but that's why we're here."

 @CollegiateTimes

VT: ZERO TOLERANCE

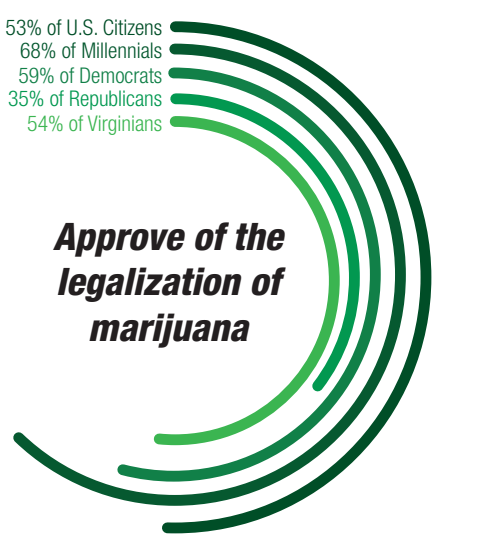
First offense: 30 days in jail and \$500 fine
Repeated offense: Year in jail and \$2500 fine

1033 Program



FILE 2014

The 1033 program is an existing U.S. government strategy to transfer excess military hardware to local law enforcement agencies. 150+ colleges received equipment from the 1033 program, including JMU and U.Va.



Drug Incidents

Since 2012, VTPD has recorded 208 incidents of drug possession, and 121 were identified as marijuana. This includes 23 marijuana incidents in 2014.

Hokie drug use parallels national trends

LEWIS MILLHOLLAND
news reporter

Weed, reefer, Mary Jane, the ganja and pot – all names for marijuana, the most commonly used illicit drug in the nation, according to a 2012 study by the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

Week after week, the Virginia Tech Police Department crime logs contain incidents of "Drugs/ Narcotic Violation." The number of drug violations occurring on campus is unavailable.

The 2014-2015 Hokie Handbook, available online, details Virginia Tech's "zero tolerance" policy on marijuana.

"Possession of marijuana, upon conviction, exposes the violator to a misdemeanor conviction for which the punishment is confinement in jail for up to thirty days and a fine up to \$500, either or both," the Handbook reads.

Subsequent violations may increase jail time up to a maximum

of one year and a possible \$2,500 fine. Selling or distributing marijuana is considered a felony in the

Possession of marijuana, upon conviction, exposes the violator to a misdemeanor conviction.
2014-2015 Hokie Handbook

state of Virginia.

However, public opinion does not necessarily align with the legality of marijuana. A survey by the Pew Research Center found that 53 percent of Americans answered yes to the question, "Do you think the use of marijuana should be made legal, or not?"

The largest group in favor of legalization was the Millennial population, those born between 1981 and 1997, with 68 percent in favor of decriminalizing the drug.

"A lot of people use it," said Scott Savino, sophomore aerospace engineering major.

"It keeps growing," Savino said. "With the laws changing, especially in DC, and the recent change of laws in Colorado for recreational use, it's just going to slowly change."

Savino also commented on the relationship between VTPD and marijuana use on campus.

"They make a bigger deal than it is," Savino said. "I feel like alcohol is more of a harm to people than marijuana."

Opinion on decriminalizing is stratified by party lines. While 59 percent of Democrats are in favor, only 35 percent of Republicans support its legalization. However, this is the highest proportion of republicans to answer "yes" since 1969, when Pew first began collecting the relevant data.

The Virginia Tech community is no stranger to drugs besides alcohol

see [MARIJUANA](#) / page 6

NCAA lacks uniform drug policy

FAIZAN HASNANY
sports editor

The NCAA has been under scrutiny, especially in recent years, for its strict regulations against college athletes receiving any monetary compensation, outside of scholarships, given by their schools. An area that the NCAA has neglected to put clear regulations on, which has been overshadowed but is also worthy of criticism, is its drug policy.

According to section 3.2.1 in Virginia Tech's student-athlete substance

abuse policy guide, "the NCAA drug-testing program involves urine collection on specific occasions (usually, NCAA championships, on-campus previous to football bowl games or on other occasions for selected football and track athletes)."

Most of the testing throughout the year, however, is conducted by the school's individual drug policies. According to the NCAA's official website, 90 percent of Division I schools have their own drug policies.

According to the NCAA's official website, 90 percent of Division I schools have their own drug policies."

The issue with not having a uniform drug policy in place is that most schools have different policies that may allow for more leeway than others.

In this year's NCAA

men's basketball tournament, each team in the Final Four had extremely varying drug policies. Between the two teams in the National Championship game, Duke's policy on performance-enhancing drugs requires a one-year suspension after a player's first offense, whereas Wisconsin requires no mandatory first-offense suspension.

For the NCAA, which is signed to a multi-billion dollar television deal and

see [DRUG TESTING](#) / page 5



CHRISTIAN STERLING / COLLEGIATE TIMES

Community members practice contemplation in front of the April 16 memorial to commemorate the eighth anniversary of the Virginia Tech tragedy.

Community practices mindful 4/16 reflection

ANDREW KULAK
news reporter

At 4:16 p.m. on Thursday, the rich timbre of a ringing bell resounded three times across the Drillfield from the April 16 memorial. For just a moment, the soft murmur of whispers, footsteps and camera shutters fell completely silent as Jordan Hill, an instructor in the Department of Religion and Culture, signaled the beginning of an hour-long mindfulness practice to peacefully contemplate the anniversary of the horrific event that eight years ago shook the Virginia Tech community to its core.

"Contemplation and

reflection is another way of paying one's respects and of reflecting in a genuine personal way upon unfathomable violence and tragedy," Hill said. "It's an hour of sitting with other people and being mindful of this very important and very tragic moment in Virginia Tech history. It's an event that's so simple, but it has the potential for every individual to be something profound."

Despite the cooler temperatures, gray skies and occasional rain, students and community members representing diverse backgrounds and beliefs sat together on the ground, forming concentric

see [MINDFULNESS](#) / page 6



CATIE CARRERAS / COLLEGIATE TIMES
Former Marine Corporal Ryan Plummer (right) speaks at a remembrance event for the 32 victims of April 16, 2007 to honor his friend Matthew LaPorte.

MELISSA DRAUDT
news reporter

As the Hokie nation mourns the lives of the 32 people who died eight years ago, sophomore political science major Moustapha Ouattara wants more of us to know how each of the 32 victims lived their lives.

"More often than not, we know this event happened on the anniversary, but we don't know their legacies," Ouattara said. "They're a part of this university, and I feel that everyone should take a moment to learn about them."

On the night of April 16, 2015, in 32 slides, an audience of Hokies learned about each life lost on April 16, 2007.

Ouattara presented each victim with a photo and a

description of accomplishments along with heartfelt quotes from people whose lives were personally affected by that victim.

Former Marine Corporal and Virginia Tech alumnus Ryan Plummer presented a personal account of the life of his friend cadet Matthew Joseph La Porte, who was awarded the Airman's Medal last week for his heroism in being shot eight times while charging the gunman on that day.

Following Plummer's emotional narrative, audience members stood with hands over their hearts in honor of La Porte's courage and service.

The presentation Ouattara see [LEGACY](#) / page 6



MEET YOUR SMOKE SHOP CLERK
Evan Nicely from Smoke Zone talks community.
page 3



BASEBALL WEEKEND PREVIEW
The Hokies face UNC in a three-game home series.
page 5

columns

Columnists bluntly address war on drugs

“The legalization of marijuana has been a controversial and especially contemporary issue. With four states and the District of Columbia drafting legislation, which fully legalizes the drug, it has entered the public eye. Many arguments have been presented about the reasons to legalize the drug.

The main arguments for legalization have been centered on a cost/benefit analysis of the drug’s relatively harmless nature, as well as its large fiscal costs due to law enforcement and high incarceration rates.

In terms of the economic benefits of legalization, a 2005 study conducted by Harvard economist Jeffrey Miron estimated a total revenue increase and budget savings of 10-14 billion dollars per year (combined state and federal).

The social cost for marijuana prohibition is also high – with approximately 40,000 people in state and federal prisons for marijuana offenses. This makes up almost 12 percent of the total prison population.

JOE MELTON

- VP of students for sensible drug policy

“From a very young age, we are taught that drugs are bad. Through programs like D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education), elementary and middle school students are warned to avoid ever partaking in drugs, whether they seem as innocent as marijuana or as hardcore as crack cocaine.

The usefulness of such programs is questionable, however, as it seems to have done little to prevent youth from using drugs. According to the National Institute of Health (NIH), over 50 percent of 18- to 25-year-olds have tried marijuana, and just under 20

percent use it regularly. The results of NIH’s 2012 survey showed that an estimated 9.2 percent of Americans, age 12 and older, had taken illicit drugs or abused prescription drugs in the month prior to the survey. These are pretty significant numbers.

Withdrawal keeps people coming back for more, which is not only unhealthy but also extremely expensive. According to priceofweed.com, an ounce of marijuana can cost anywhere from \$227 to \$363 in Virginia.

RACHEL TIMMONS

- regular columnist

“Florida, which was the first state to pass welfare drug testing legislation, tested all of its welfare applicants and made the applicant pay the cost of testing. Florida would then reimburse the applicants whose test results came back clean.

According to the ACLU, Florida had 4,086 TANF applicants between July and October of 2011, 108 of whom tested positive for drugs, meaning the state had to reimburse over 97 percent of the applicants for the testing. Florida spent \$118,140 on drug testing and had net losses of over \$45,000

after factoring in the cost of drug testing and administrative costs.

Florida was on pace to spend over \$350,000 in just one year of the program to stop only 300 or so drug users from receiving government aid. If this program remained intact for only three years, Florida would have spent over a million dollars to stop fewer than 1,000 applicants.

It begs the question, “Is this the most efficient use of my tax dollars?”

NICHOLAS WORK

- regular columnist
- freshman/management and political science

“The marijuana legalization issue has become a much more important issue in today’s politics as states are starting to break free from the control of the federal government and strike down the ban on the consumption and the commercialization of marijuana.

This trend is only going to continue further as millennials begin to take leadership positions in law, politics and public policy.

The Pew Research Center has done surveys showing that 53 percent of the total American population supports

marijuana legalization, 68 percent of those being millennials. For the partisan breakdown, 63 percent of millennial Republicans support the legalization of marijuana, whereas 77 percent of millennial Democrats are in favor of it.

Although I am personally opposed to legalizing marijuana, the choice of striking down that prohibition should be left up to the states. In 2005, only 10 years ago, the Supreme Court invalidated California’s Proposition 215 that would have legalized the prescription and consumption of medical

marijuana in Gonzales v. Raich.

The Court argued that the federal government had the constitutional power under the Commerce Clause and the Necessary and Proper Clause in Article I, section 8 to enforce the Controlled Substances Act (CSA).

The Obama Administration has decided not to challenge Colorado’s state statute legalizing the recreational use of marijuana in federal courts.

WES MORGAN

- president of Virginia Tech College Republicans

“According to a January 2015 study published in Scientific Reports, researchers now believe that marijuana is even safer than previously thought, ranking it as the least harmful and having the lowest risk of mortality as compared to the 10 most commonly used recreational drugs.

Yet the United States Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) still classifies marijuana as a Schedule I drug which are, according to its website, “the most dangerous drugs of all the drug schedules, with potentially severe psychological or

physical dependence,” and include heroin, LSD, and ecstasy.

Despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary, the DEA claims that marijuana has no accepted medicinal value and high potential for abuse. Why has the federal government spent over \$51 billion a year on the “war on drugs”?

Not only is it just plain foolish to devote this enormous amount of time, money and resources to criminalizing a drug that nearly every recent scientific study has found to be safer than alcohol, it is evident that the real victims of the war

on drugs overwhelmingly are poor urban communities and ethnic minorities.

A 2013 study released by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) found that black people are nearly four times more likely than whites to be arrested for marijuana possession despite comparable rates of use. And when prisons and court systems are clogged up because of low-level marijuana possession charges, money is clearly being ill-spent.

MATHEW LYNESS

- Virginia young democrats LGBT caucus chair

These five opinions are excerpts from full-length pieces that are available on our website: www.collegiatetimes.com/opinion

your views
[letter to the editor]

Terminology critical for LGBTQ+ community

We write to you today hurt, concerned and saddened by the recent article “Gender-neutral restrooms positively impact transgender people” featured online and in print. The article, even after online edits, offers archaic language, fails to use a people centric perspective, and trivializes the experiences of trans and gender non-conforming people.

a lack of knowledge about the nuanced experiences of community members.

Paired with this comes the erasing of the humanity of the community through the apology offered by the editorial team for a portion of the disappointing language choices made. Referencing the misidentifying of a community of human beings as a mistake serves only to establish people as objects to be labeled.

Further, the feigned nature of offering an apology for “anyone who was offended” generates an atmosphere of further marginalization of folks who are simply asking for the use of terms that appropriately name their identities—reflecting an unwillingness to accept accountability for continued administrative violence. The term “transgendered” implies something occurred to an individual that fundamentally changed who they are. To contextualize this:

Yellow paper is paper that is yellow has always been yellow, and will, henceforth, continue to be yellow.

Yellowed paper is paper that was once a different color, had something occur to it and has become yellowed.

Thus, the utilization of “transgendered” invalidates the trans identity as something that is an inherent part of being and relegates it to an incident that changed how someone identifies.

Although we remain appreciative for the discussion of bathroom politics and the scarcity of trans and gender

non-conforming restrooms available in metropolitan areas, this issue of limited inclusive restroom options is also extremely apparent at Virginia Tech.

For example, in Squires Student Center, a community space that is intended to “serve as a unifying force that honors each individual and values diversity,” there are no single-occupancy or all-gender restrooms on any of the three floors.

We fiercely require a deeper appreciation of the lived experiences of an entire community of people. Language is ever-evolving, therefore it is important to seek robust perspectives and focus on lived experiences to understand how they shape the discourse around these issues.

Though there are professionals and organizations on campus who are able to provide consultation and support as you navigate the portrayal of LGBTQ+ stories and narratives, it is far more important for you to seek education regarding inclusive language and, more broadly, the actual experiences of trans individuals.

In the true spirit of the Hokie Nation, we are not asking you to embark on this journey alone; rather, we are simply asking for you to reach out and join this collaborative effort to move Virginia Tech towards becoming a respectful space of full participation for all people.

MEGAN NGUYEN AND CHAD MANDALA

Join this collaborative effort to move Virginia Tech towards becoming a respectful space of full participation for all.”

Using language like “mixed gender,” “non gender conforming,” and “trans-gendered” contributes to the marginalization of trans and gender non-conforming individuals while simultaneously underscoring the challenges and disrespect the community faces on a daily basis.

While we can appreciate that the intent of the Collegiate Times staff was to create awareness around one of the multiple issues that the trans community faces, the impact of the language and perspectives utilized reflects

MCT CAMPUS

COLLEGIATE TIMES

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Meet your SMOKE SHOP CLERK Evan Nicely: Smoke Zone

“Meet your Smoke Shop Clerk” is a one-time feature column as part of the Collegiate Times’ 4/20 special issue addressing the smoke culture in Blacksburg.

PAYTON KNOBELOCH
lifestyles staff writer

As Monday approaches and more people need supplies – for tobacco use only, of course – Blacksburg’s Smoke Zone gets a bit busier.

Though the shop itself has been in downtown Blacksburg for years, sales clerk Evan Nicely is relatively new to the job. However it’s a job he’s grown fond of and one he’d recommend.

“I’ll definitely be here as long as they have me,” Nicely said.

Nicely hails from the Richmond area, and he attends Virginia Tech as a junior property management major.

Even though he’s a recent hire, Nicely isn’t new to the store.

“They asked me if I wanted to work here. I’ve been a customer,” Nicely said. “I wanted to work in Blacksburg; that’s nice, being part of the community and whatnot.”

Nicely notes that working at the store has allowed him to meet new people. The majority of customers are locals, but many come from elsewhere, like Radford and Giles County.

“Everyone’s friendly that comes in, so it’s pretty easy,” Nicely said.

Smoke Zone’s customers aren’t only from the immediate area. With Virginia Tech attracting students from around the world, people with new experiences are bound to come in once in a while.

“Some people have been from California,” Nicely said. “It’s a little awkward



ZACK WAJSGRAS / COLLEGIATE TIMES

Smoke Zone clerk Evan Nicely opens up about working with the Blacksburg community.

with all the legal things happening – there are certain off-limits words.”

Smoke Zone is adamant in letting its customers know its mission. Signs with messages like “If you say ‘b*tch,’ we will throw you out” and “It’s a water pipe, say it with me, W-A-T-E-R-P-I-P-E” pepper the store.

Smoke Zone aims to price its products fairly year-round, but the store offers to match or beat prices of their competitors.

According to Nicely, the store has changed up its product lineup since he was a customer as an effort to evolve. This means more selection, brand name products – almost half of the glassware comes from Simba, says Nicely – and less expensive off-brand products.

Nicely was sure to emphasize the atmosphere of both the store and its clientele.

“It’s really surprising, like 99 percent of the people who come in here are just beyond friendly,”

Nicely said.

He also remarked that Smoke Zone is interested in being just another smoke shop.

“We want to reach out to the community and be a part of it, as opposed to being a business in the community. We want to give back,” he said.

For this exact purpose, Smoke Zone offers monthly raffles and sales. Some of the raffles are accompanied by auctions. Nicely says this works to keep the townspeople happy.

To celebrate 4/20, Smoke Zone has been offering 20 days of sales and special offers. On Monday specifically, the store has a buy-one-get-one for \$4.20 until 4:20 p.m. and free pizza, snacks and prizes from noon until 4:20 p.m.

“It’s a friendly environment, and we’ll work with you the best we can,” Nicely said.

 @MaybeNotPayton

MunchieMeals

Top Midnight Munchies



Boasting wings, ribs and a wrap called the Pineapple Express, this bar is open until 2 a.m. for late-night cravings.

Cook-Out

For just \$6.67, get a famous tray with a choice of three delicious items and milkshakes for everyone’s tastes.

Campus Cookies



Customer appreciation day coincidentally falls on 4/20 for this company which boasts “Get Baked” as its slogan.

Waffle House



A ludicrously cheap value menu offers patrons everything from \$1 egg and cheese biscuits to \$4 hashbrowns “all the way.”

Taco Bell

With Baja Blast Mountain Dew and a wide variety of spicy sauces, this spot has much more to offer than just tacos.

EMILY WALTERS
health foods columnist

Monday’s date is something that has been made into kind of a joke among millennials – a day for marijuana.

If you’re celebrating, one well-known side effect of marijuana is the so-called “munchies.” When experiencing the munchies, it could be easy to eat large amounts of chips, cookies or other unhealthy foods.

Recreational users may find this side effect enjoyable – but the potential weight gain due to unhealthy snacks could put a damper on the mood.

Scientists struggled for some time to figure out why marijuana’s active ingredient tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, makes users so hungry. But a team of European neuroscientists has recently made a discovery that brings us a little closer to the definitive answer.

This team, led by Giovanni Marsicano of the University of Bordeaux, has been using mice for their research. They found that THC heightened the rodents’ ability to smell food and, therefore, eat more. One piece of the puzzle could be that, when high, you want to eat more simply because you can smell and taste more acutely. (There is more data provided from this study on Smithsonian.com.)

So, because your senses are so fine-tuned when high, wouldn’t you want to enjoy foods that are delicious and healthy that will make you feel good, rather than unhealthy foods?

Sometimes it can be difficult to convince yourself to eat foods that aren’t your usual treats, but after some research, I’ve read multiple accounts that forcing yourself to eat foods you don’t want when high makes you crave them after a few times.

It’s a good idea to instill these good habits, and kick the bad ones ASAP, in order to keep your body healthy.

Sugary, processed foods will only make you feel worse about yourself. So, consider this list the next time you need to satisfy those hankering. I found these from a user on HighExistence.com.

Celery and peanut butter: We all remember ants-on-a-log from our kindergarten days, so let this tasty treat take you back. Celery is really fresh, light, crisp and refreshing! It pairs well with the simultaneously salty and sweet peanut butter, which is packed with protein.

Sugar snap peas and hummus: This is just a saltier version of the celery and peanut butter. Sugar snap peas are somewhat sweet, but the hummus negates this. Try different flavors of hummus to kick this snack up a notch. Chickpeas, which are what hummus is made of, are also very good; they’re high in fiber and low in cholesterol.

Apple slices and cinnamon sugar: throw these guys in the microwave for 30 seconds and welcome yourself to heaven. Apples also promote healthier and whiter teeth.


Fried egg with feta cheese, crushed red pepper flakes and basil. Need I say more?

Baby carrots and ranch dressing: Carrots are good for your eyes! Also, the antioxidants found in carrots can regulate blood sugar and delay the effects of aging.

Depending on the temperature outside, either hot or cold coffee or tea (any kind) might do just the trick.

These are just a few of many suggestions out there only a Google search away! Healthy snacks are important to keeping up a healthy lifestyle. It may be a little bit more work to slice up an apple or spread some peanut butter on celery, but the benefits you will reap will be worth it in the end.

Relax and celebrate well, Hokies.

 @emwalters19

Justice is blind: Daredevil breaks out on the small screen

PAYTON KNOBELOCH
comics columnist

It’s hard to believe it’s been two whole years since 20th Century Fox allowed its rights to the Daredevil character to revert back to Marvel Studios. What began as an optimistic transaction has morphed into four new shows on Netflix and a planned combined miniseries.

Now all 13 episodes of Marvel’s “Daredevil” have dropped for streaming, and the response to the series has been mainly positive. It seems like The Man Without Fear has finally hit the mainstream for the better, and the character can get away from being “that time Ben Affleck put on leather and raged to Evanescence.”

With minimal time to binge, I’ve made it through the first six episodes (Don’t any of you people work?), and I’m really impressed with what I’ve seen so far.

Charlie Cox as the eponymous hero can turn on a dime from violent vigilante to humorous, altruistic lawyer without ever resorting to a gravelly “Batman voice.” I’m especially in love with references to The Avengers and how the Battle of New York affected the city on a personal level.

But most of all, the series is dark and grounded without being broody, and it’s the best possible construction of the groundwork laid by Frank Miller. You know, before all that Holy Terror nonsense and becoming comics’ prejudiced

uncle. He’s from ... a different era.

A quick glance at the character shows us that he was created by Stan Lee and Bill Everett in 1964, though Miller’s run on the series, beginning in 1979, put him in the antihero context remembered today.

Matt Murdock (played by Charlie Cox) acts as a lawyer by day with his partner Foggy Nelson (Eldon Henson). By night, he takes to the streets of Hell’s Kitchen, a New York City neighborhood much nicer these days than when Daredevil was introduced.

If you’ve seen the series, you also know what sets him apart from other heroes: he’s blind. Murdock lost his sight as a child by a canister of chemicals flying off a truck,

and no, you don’t have to take that seriously. Though it took his vision, he gained a super-human radar sense because, to quote movie critic Bob Chipman, “comics are weird.”

The Kingpin (Vincent D’Onofrio), Daredevil’s main villain, wasn’t always that. He originated as a Spider-Man rogue, but Miller used his run to repurpose the character.

What else do the comics tell us about the potential for the series? Mainly, I’d say to expect lots of crossover material. Daredevil is famous for coming into contact with other street-level heroes and anti-heroes, a few of whom have their own series coming to Netflix later.

One of my personal favorite story arcs is 2012’s “The Omega Effect,” a crossover

spanning three series over three issues. It dropped Daredevil, Spider-Man and The Punisher into a nice, bite-sized adventure, and now that Marvel Studios has access to the rights for all three characters, I’m quietly hoping we see something similar.

Now that season one of Marvel’s Daredevil is out in the world, Marvel Studios is working on putting together three more: “A.K.A. Jessica Jones” (currently filming and starring “Breaking Bad”’s Krysten Ritter), followed by “Luke Cage” (with “Halo: Nightfall”’s Mike Colter) and then “Iron Fist.” These will culminate with an Avengers-type team-up, a Defenders miniseries.

This first season of Daredevil has my hopes high

for the rest, but I’m especially partial to Iron Fist. If the show is anything like the Matt Fraction/Ed Brubaker/David Aja series, we’re all in for a good time.

For this week’s recommendation, let’s move away from the gloomy and doom-y Daredevil; the series gives us plenty of that. Instead, check out my personal preference for the character with Mark Waid and Paolo Rivera’s Daredevil. The first trade dropped back in 2013, and it’s a great change of pace from the usual. It’s bright and fun without compromising the character’s best attributes, and it’s a great entry point for new readers. Consider it your palate cleanser.

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Piled Higher and Deeper by Jorge Cham

Hi, CECILIA. HOW'S THE WRITING GOING?

SLOW. I'M FINDING IT HARD TO MAKE PROGRESS.

BUT THAT'S OK. THEY SAY WRITING IS 1% INSPIRATION, 99% PROCRASTINATION.

I THINK IT'S 99% "PERSPIRATION."

YES! YOU SWEAT FROM ALL THE PROCRASTINATION!

xkcd by Randall Munroe

INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION
WELCOME TO IAU SYMPOSIUM #279.

WE ARE NO STRANGERS TO CONTROVERSY, AND WE WILL NOT SHY AWAY FROM THE TOUGH ISSUES. WHICH BRINGS US TO THE SUBJECT AT HAND:

IT'S TIME TO TALK ABOUT THE FACT THAT ORION CLEARLY HAS A DONG.

IT'S HARD TO MISS. WE COULD KEEP TELLING PEOPLE IT'S A SWORD. C'MON, NO ONE'S BUYING THAT ANYMORE.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16		
17					18					19		
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50					51					52		
53					54					55		
56					57					58		
59					60					61		
62					63					64		
65					66					67		

By Don Gagliardo 4/17/15

ACROSS

1 Fictional falcon seeker
6 Fictional falcon source
11 "The Sting" number
14 Much of Israel
15 Provide with heat?
16 Shaft discovery
17 Speak above the crowd?
18 Solitude
20 "Not exactly a nightie
22 Jack edged him out in the 1980 U.S. Open
23 Jumbo, say

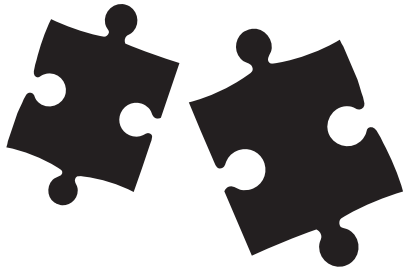
24 "Scales are part of it
31 Some time ago
32 Screwball
33 "Reinforced road traveler
41 "___, 'tis true, I have gone here and there": Sonnet 110
42 Choice word
43 "Headquarters
48 Pole or Croat
50 Where parts of the '95 film "Higher Learning" were shot
51 Spin, as a cue ball, and how to answer each

starred clue in this puzzle?
58 Radical
59 Bathroom sink fitting
61 Bathroom, across the pond
62 Berry picked for an Emmy
63 Sister of Thalia
64 Stab
65 Loper leader
66 Easily colored synthetic

DOWN

1 Desk globe filler?
2 Line to tear along: Abbr.
3 "I've Got ___ in Kalamazoo"

- 4 Suspect, maybe
5 "Given that ..."
6 Sky streaker
7 Deep blue
8 Harpsichordist's aid
9 It has few pips
10 Key of Beethoven's Sym. No. 7
11 Frosh assignment
12 Ball partner
13 Sky honkers
19 Lad's sweetheart
21 Hammock session
24 Batt. terminal
25 NFL drive killer
26 Score very high on
27 "This is ___ sudden!"
28 Motel extra
29 Nail holder
30 Ill. neighbor
34 Data-sharing syst.
35 Lunch initials
36 ___ candy
37 Renters, collectively
38 Nevertheless
39 Time off, in mil. slang
40 ___ candy
43 Yarn or bell, e.g.
44 Page-bottom directive
45 Polish goal
46 "The Shield" actress ___ Pounder
47 Made hasty altar plans
48 Broke down, in a way
49 Pyramid-shaped Vegas hotel
- 52 Soda reportedly named for a bottle size
53 Fed
54 Happy tune
55 Crow's-nest sighting
- 56 Afghanistan neighbor
57 Thames gallery
60 Capitol Hill mover



Thursday's Puzzle Solved

Q	U	E	E	N	W	A	L	T	O	P	A	H
E	N	E	R	O	A	L	O	E	H	E	R	A
D	I	G	I	T	F	E	R	N	G	A	R	P
					C	O	F	F	E	E		
B	A	S	H	F	U	L	S	N	E	E	Z	Y
O	R	A			R	E	A	S	O	N		
G	R	U	M	P	Y	R	E	B	U	I	L	D
G	E	N	I	E	D	O	C	A	B	E	E	T
S	T	A	G	E	M	O	M	S	L	E	E	P
					K	A	R	A	T	E		
D	I	S	N	E	Y	H	E	I	G	H	H	O
O	C	T	A	D		V	I	E	N	N	A	
P	I	E	D		T	E	N	D		T	R	A
E	N	N	E		V	I	T	O		O	T	H
Y	G	O	R		S	N	O	W		W	H	I

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M	B	Z	C	A	N	C	H	O	V	I	E	S	S	W	H	F	W
P	C	I	B	F	K	Z	A	K	F	I	C	W	C	E	C	W	C
F	H	G	T	O	M	A	T	O	Q	Z	Q	Y	L	T	K	E	I
L	E	D	G	K	X	X	J	B	O	V	A	P	J	X	Y	S	G
X	E	C	Y	J	C	S	Z	A	P	W	P	E	P	P	E	R	F
P	S	H	P	Q	P	R	N	C	R	A	K	G	S	V	H	U	L
Q	E	S	V	T	T	Y	C	O	E	B	D	O	F	V	M	C	N
A	M	S	M	U	V	G	E	N	U	H	N	O	I	N	O	L	R
Z	O	C	T	M	X	X	I	T	G	Y	T	L	B	W	O	U	A
C	W	D	I	O	U	P	D	A	O	F	Z	I	C	I	R	V	R
O	W	V	I	Z	X	Q	C	Y	W	X	G	V	I	K	H	J	T
U	Y	B	U	Z	M	Z	G	F	D	X	Q	E	H	M	S	G	I
D	D	Q	S	A	L	A	M	I	R	C	G	B	X	M	U	W	C
X	T	U	S	R	X	C	K	U	M	G	M	A	O	X	M	M	H
W	S	T	P	E	P	P	E	R	O	N	I	Z	R	S	F	D	O
H	Z	H	S	L	N	N	B	C	Z	J	Q	N	D	L	P	E	K
F	A	Y	S	L	H	R	E	D	S	A	U	C	E	V	I	K	E
F	U	M	H	A	J	I	L	O	C	C	O	R	B	C	G	C	N

WORDSEARCH

PIZZA TOPPINGS

Locate the list of words in the word bank in the letter grid

WORD BANK

Cheese
Pepperoni
Bacon
Red Sauce
Pineapple
Mushroom
Tomato
Garlic
Olive

Ham
Pepper
Artichoke
Broccoli
Mozzarella
Salami
Anchovies
Onion
Pesto

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DRUG TESTING:
NCAA policy
raises issues

from page 1

gains more TV ad revenue than even professional sports including the NFL and NBA, the integrity of the sport that they are putting on display can be called into question with certain schools and players gaining a potential advantage due to the different policies.

Virginia Tech, which has not dealt with many notable drug test failure issues in the past, has its own policy in place. Drug testing is conducted very frequently for Virginia Tech athletes.

“Every two weeks throughout the year, at random,” said Mike Goforth, the associate athletics director for sports medicine and drug test coordinator at Virginia Tech.

The frequency of the tests have led to only 3-4 athletes failing drug tests each year. The penalties for failing a drug test vary by number of offenses and drug type. They can also be increased by a coach situationally.

“These penalties are minimum standards, and a coach does have the flexibility to make the penalties worse,” Goforth said. “For a first positive for THC an athlete has to miss 10 percent of the next regularly scheduled events, second positive is 33 percent, third positive is one year and a fourth positive, you are out of the program.”

THC, or tetrahydrocannabinol, is the chemical

found in marijuana and is the drug found in most athletes who fail the drug test, according to Goforth.

“For any other drug, the penalties are stiffer,” Goforth said. “For the first positive you miss 33 percent of the next regularly scheduled events, second positive is one year and you are out of the program on your third positive.”

Virginia Tech’s policy also emphasizes helping students with counseling and rehabilitation after testing positive.

“Counseling is required for each student-athlete whose drug test is positive,” according to section 3.3 of the student-athlete substance abuse policy guide.

“They are required to see our physician and our psychologist to determine if there is a possible issue with dependence,” Goforth said. “Those visits will range from one or two visits to possibly repeat follow-ups until the person has completed their eligibility. They are also subjected to increased testing.”

Fellow ACC school Syracuse was recently dealt a five-year probation by the NCAA, a sanction given for not following its own drug policies. The lack of a uniform system by the NCAA has drawn attention to each school’s unique policies and complicated enforcement of drug testing in college athletics.

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CATIE CARRERAS / COLLEGIATE TIMES

Sean Keselica, 25, pitches against Georgia Tech. Keselica, the Hokies’ ace, has had success vs. UNC in the past.

Baseball vs UNC weekend preview

KYLE COOKE
sports reporter

Virginia Tech baseball is back in Blacksburg this weekend after being swept last weekend by the University of Miami. This time, the Hokies will face off against the University of North Carolina in a three-game series at English Field.

The NCAA RPI rankings have the Tar Heels listed as the 16th-best team in the country, however, the USA Today coach’s poll doesn’t have them ranked.

UNC has not had the success its had in recent years within the ACC. Its 23-14 record overall is indeed impressive, but it is only 9-9 in the conference this season, which is disappointing compared to the program’s history. Just two years ago, the Tar Heels were the second-ranked team in the country and won the ACC Tournament to secure an automatic bid to the NCAA Division I Baseball Tournament.

UNC is following a

similar path this year as last year. Although finishing an impressive eight games over .500, the Tar Heels still only broke even in conference games, winning 15 out of 30.

“Two of three games last April were decided by one run, including a walk-off win for the Tar Heels in the final game of the series.”

Those are hardly woes compared to what Virginia Tech went through last weekend. The Miami Hurricanes, who have the second best record in the ACC behind only Louisville, swept the Hokies in a three-game series. Miami also sits in first place of the Coastal Division, so this sweep wasn’t too shocking.

Miami is one of the best teams in the country this

year, but the Hokies simply were not themselves last weekend. They struggled at the plate and on the mound. Redshirt freshman second baseman Sam Fragale led the team in hits against the Hurricanes with just four. Pitching struggled, too. Every starting pitcher gave up at least three runs and they all recorded a loss, even Sean Keselica, the Hokies’ reliable ace.

The silver lining in all of this is that the Hokies played very well against North Carolina last year, even if they did get swept. Two of three games last April were decided by one run, including a walk-off win for the Tar Heels in the final game of the series.

Sean Keselica flourished against UNC last year. He started the first game of the series and gave up only two earned runs in a complete-game effort. The senior also hit .333 against the Tar Heels last year.

The Hokies, who have lost to the Tar Heels 22 times in a row and have dropped 29

of the last 30, look to finally end the drought. The Tar Heels have been ranked in all but four games during that time span. The Hokies, on the other hand, have only been ranked four games out of those 30. Tech’s head coach Patrick Mason has never recorded a win against the Heels, but he has only had three shots.

If the Hokies are finally going to pull off an upset against UNC, this will be the weekend to do it. Like Virginia Tech, the Tar Heels have had an up-and-down year in the ACC, which is a tough conference to dominate in. The Hokies have shown that they can go toe-to-toe with the best teams in the country this year and will try to rediscover the team that swept U.Va.

The games this weekend will be played at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, 2:00 p.m. on Saturday and 1:00 p.m. on Sunday at English Field.

@CollegiateTimes

Women’s tennis looks to end season on a high note

SAVANNAH PADGETT
sports reporter

This weekend the Women’s tennis team will head to Charlottesville to take on No. 10 Virginia. Following Virginia Tech’s match-up with the Cavaliers, the Hokies will travel back to Blacksburg to face Louisville at the Burrows-Burleson Tennis Center on Sunday.

The match against Louisville on Sunday will be the Hokies’ last home game of the season before traveling to Cary, North Carolina, to compete in ACC Championships April 22 to 26.

Currently ranked 42nd, the Hokies have made great strides this year with only a few small setbacks. Tech started off its season with a bang, winning its first matchup against No. 35 Princeton. Despite losing their first two ACC matches of the year against No. 23 Duke and No. 1 North Carolina, the Hokies bounced back and won the following match against No. 57 Florida State.

Their next match against No. 50 Wake Forest proved victorious, bumping the Hokies to a national ranking of 42nd. Their matchup against Wake Forest started out rough as

the Hokies lost their first double. However, Tech came back strong and won the match 6-1.

The following weekend, the Hokies fell to No. 73 Boston College in Chestnut Hills. The Eagles won their matchup 5-2. However, the match-up was not completely devoid of strong performances on Tech’s side. Junior, Ilinca Stoica, put Virginia Tech on the board by winning her single. 86th-ranked sophomore Francesca Fusinato also won her singles.

After their disappointing loss against the Eagles, the Hokies made

a strong comeback in a dominating victory over Pittsburgh, winning five of six singles matches. Fusinato played well and won yet another singles match, which gave Tech a solid advantage in their match against the Panthers.

Using the momentum gained from the Pittsburgh win, Tech went on its best run of the season.

Freshman Katherine Butler had an impressive showing in a win over VCU. Butler won in singles for the second time in a row, and managed to give Tech a 2-0 lead.

The following day,

the Hokies upset No. 16 Miami in a thrilling game. Miami started off strong, taking the lead. However, the Hokies bounced back. The match came down to Fusinato and No. 6-ranked Stephanie Wagner. Fusinato had the performance of her life, handing the Hurricanes their first in-conference loss of the season, and earned ACC player-of-the-week honors.

After their victory against Miami, the Hokies shot up in the rankings to No. 34. However, Virginia Tech suffered a setback in its matches the following weekend against Georgia

Tech and No. 40 Notre Dame.

This past weekend, the Hokies had an impressive 7-0 win over NC State and Syracuse. Against NC State, Tech claimed the doubles points and picked up three singles wins. They hope to carry this momentum to end the regular season on a high note.

Saturday’s game at Virginia will be at 11 a.m. and Sunday’s game at home against Louisville will begin at 1 p.m.

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MARIJUANA: Policy vs. public opinion

from page 1

and marijuana. The Blacksburg police conducted a drug bust at the University Terrace apartments in May 2014, discovering a lab set up to manufacture dimethyl-typtamine, or DMT.

In 1997, the U.S. government built upon existing programs to transfer excess military hardware to local law enforcement agencies. The program was renamed the 1033 Program and distributed \$5.1 billion worth of military equipment by 2014.

Birthing in the context of the war on drugs, the equipment was intended “for use by such agencies in counter-drug activities,” as stated in the National Defense Authorization Act.

Distributed items include tactical armored vehicles, weapons, aircraft and grenade launchers. Less volatile equipment, such as sandbags and fax machines, have also been disseminated through the program.

Over 150 college police departments have received equipment through the 1033 Program. Large public universities such as JMU and U.Va. are on this list.

A telephone survey conducted by Quinnipiac University found that 54 percent of Virginians favored allowing adults to possess a small amount of the drug for personal use.

When it comes to the availability of marijuana in the Virginia Tech community, Savino summed it up simply: “If you want it, you can get it.”

The Virginia Tech Police Department declined comment for this story.



MINDFULNESS: Contemplation practiced

from page 1

arcs mirroring the Hokie Stone memorial behind them.

Jolly Mitchell, a fifth-year senior chemical engineering and chemistry double major, estimated that at least 60 people participated, with some passersby silently joining the original group throughout the course of the event.

“It’s raining, it’s gross and cold, but everyone’s here for the same purpose,” Mitchell said after the sitting. “It’s the closeness of this community really. I haven’t seen it anywhere else.”

For Hill, mindfulness has been an important part of his life since his time as a student at Naropa University in Boulder, Colorado, where he spent a year and a half developing his own practice followed by another year earning an instructor’s certificate to share the benefits of contemplation.

He continued on to Tech to earn his Ph.D. in the multidisciplinary

Alliance for Social, Political, Ethical and Cultural Thought program, incorporating mindfulness into his teaching and helping to spread the practice throughout the Blacksburg community.

“This is my last semester at Virginia Tech, and teaching, spreading and being a part of the mindfulness community has been a major part of my time here,” Hill said. “In our busy daily lives, I think it’s really easy to forget how simply amazing it is to be alive. The community sitting, I think the vision behind it originally was just a time to do nothing else.”

Hill organized the first community sitting three years ago with students in an Asian religions course he was teaching. When he noticed that a class meeting was scheduled on the anniversary of April 16, he decided to lead a mindfulness practice on the Drillfield instead.

What started as a small gathering of students grew as others joined

with them throughout the hour. The tradition has since spread through word of mouth and this year on social media. While mindfulness has been associated with many religions and cultures, Hill stressed that anyone seeking quiet introspection can practice and would be welcomed.

During the course of this year’s event, those present sat and slowly walked in silent reflection while around them birds chirped, cadets marched and students hurried across the Drillfield to their classes. After once more sounding a bell three times to mark the end of the sitting, many remained with Hill to reflect on their experience and exchange handshakes and hugs.

While some of the most poignant and memorable images of Tech community’s strength, resilience and hope in the wake of the April 16 tragedy have come out of enormous candlelight vigils, those in attendance for the smaller sitting found comfort in the quiet solemnity of the contemplative practice. For them,

being a part of the sitting clearly resonated long after the bell’s final peal fell silent.

“It’s important to me that we take some time out of our day and actually think about the things that matter,” said senior biological systems engineering major Patrick Gallagher. “When we’re rushing around, we have too many things going on in our head.”

“In being more aware of ourselves, we’re aware of those around us and those in our community,” said Christie Nguyen, a sophomore industrial and systems engineering major. “We’re all still here, and we have to make it worth it.”

“It’s definitely something that brings us together as a community,” said Ryan Gold, a sophomore electrical engineering major. “It raises an emotional feeling, an emotional attachment. It brings a feeling of...”

He paused, looked toward the memorial, and thought for a moment. “It brings a feeling of peace.”

LEGACY: Individual stories remembered

from page 1

gave Thursday night was adapted from former Virginia Tech student Colleen Thom, who presented information on each victim for four years while she served as a Resident Advisor and Hokie Bird here.

“I went to her talk last year, and I stayed after and talked to her about it, and I was really inspired by how (she) chose to celebrate the lives of the victims,” Ouattara said.

Thom was originally inspired to share information about the victims with others because of her personal connection to the tragedy, but after attending the midnight vigil on the Drillfield as the Hokie Bird her freshman year, the intent became much more powerful.

“I stood with some of the families, and that was probably one of the hardest things I’ve ever done,” Thom said. “I was happy to be able to help and to provide that support, but I felt undeserving of the ability to do that.”

Ouattara and Thom began preparation for this year’s remembrance

event over the summer, and both have done hours of research on each of the victims’ lives.

“Through doing this, I learned a lot about them and I feel like I knew them even though I didn’t, but I want everyone to feel that way, that these people, these 32 Hokies, were and always will be a part of this university,” Ouattar said. “We should all carry a burden of knowing them and really celebrate them.”

Although Thom and Ouattara researched, there is still so much to learn about these people.

“I’m still learning too,” Thom said. “Each one of those people is a person, which means there is an infinite amount of great things to learn about each of them, and there’s so much to learn from them.”

Both Ouattara and Thom want students to take away from the presentation knowledge of the legacy of each victim and a passion to live in honor of the 32.

“The biggest honor you can do for these people is to admire part of their

legacy and try to live it out,” Thom said. “The purpose of the event is two-fold. It’s to get people to actually learn about the 32 as individuals ... and get a glimpse into their lives and then ... (have people attending the presentation) to really try to think of a legacy that they would want to have and dedicate it in a way to the 32.”

After learning about Caitlin Hammaren, who also served as an RA, Thom was inspired to continue her legacy of dedication to her residents.

“One of the quotes that I found about her was that she would stay up until 6 in the morning, even if she had class the next day at 8 a.m., for any of her residents, and that resonated with me,” Hammaren said. “She really inspired me to put 100 percent into my residents.”

Ouattara plans to continue the tradition of presenting each of the victims’ lives to Hokies for the remainder of his time as a student here.

“Hopefully someone coming to the presentation can get inspired like I did last year and carry it on,” Ouattara said.

People attending the event found that it was enlightening to see how each person had an effect on others.

“It gave us more insight into their lives and how they affected everyone around them,” said freshman business information technology major Maddy Junko, who attended the event. “Their lives were cut too short, but they all had some impact on their friends, family and everyone else here.”

An important thing attendees were reminded of was how similar these 32 people were to all Hokies.

“I want (the Hokie Nation) to know that while (the victims) were 32 Hokies as a collective, they were still 32 individual bright lights that we lost that day, 32 people destined for greatness in their respective fields of study whose lives were cut way too short,” Ouattara said.

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